Applicant: Kimihiro Mabuchi et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 19461-006US1 / 548063

Serial No.:

Filed

Page : 2 of 5

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Original) A polysulfone permselective hollow fiber membrane bundle which contains poly(vinylpyrrolidone) and which shows a hydrogen peroxide-eluting amount of 5 ppm or less, when subjected to an eluation test regulated in the Approval Standard for Dialysis-type Artificial Kidney Apparatus.

- 2. (Original) A polysulfone permselective hollow fiber membrane bundle according to claim 1, which shows a hydrogen peroxide concentration of 5 ppm or less in every one of eluates from 10 portions into which the hollow fiber membrane bundle is divided in the lengthwise direction, when each of said portions is subjected to an eluation test regulated in the Approval Standard for Dialysis-type Artificial Kidney Apparatus.
- 3. (Currently Amended) A polysulfone permselective hollow fiber membrane bundle according to claim 1 or 2, wherein, when said hollow fiber membrane bundle is subjected to an eluation test regulated in the Approval Standard for Dialysis-type Artificial Kidney Apparatus, the amount of poly(vinylpyrrolidone) eluted from said hollow fiber membrane bundle is 10 ppm or less.
- 4. (Currently Amended) A polysulfone permselective hollow fiber membrane bundle according to <u>claim 1</u> any of claims 1 to 3, wherein said poly(vinylpyrrolidone) is crosslinked.
- 5. (Currently Amended) A polysulfone permselective hollow fiber membrane bundle according to claim 1 any of claims 1 to 4, wherein said poly(vinylpyrrolidone) is insolubilized.

Applicant: Kimihiro Mabuchi et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 19461-006US1 / 548063

Serial No. : Filed :

Page : 3 of 5

6. (Currently Amended) A polysulfone permselective hollow fiber membrane bundle according to claim 1 any of claims 1 to 5, wherein, when said hollow fiber membrane bundle is subjected to an eluation test regulated in the Approval Standard for Dialysis-type Artificial Kidney Apparatus, after having been stored at room temperature for one year, the maximum value of the UV absorbance of an eluate from the hollow fiber membrane bundle at a wavelength of 220 to 350 nm is 0.10 or less.

- 7. (Original) A process for manufacturing a polysulfone permselective hollow fiber membrane bundle, said process comprising the step of spinning a solution which contains a polysulfone polymer, poly(vinylpyrrolidone) and a solvent, wherein the content of hydrogen peroxide in said poly(vinylpyrrolidone) is 300 ppm or less.
- 8. (Original) A process according to claim 7, including the steps of previously kneading said components, and stirring and dissolving the resultant knead mixture in a dissolution tank.
- 9. (Original) A process according to claim 7, wherein said components are dissolved in a dissolution tank equipped with a kneading device.
- 10. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 8 or 9, wherein the kneading and/or dissolving of at least poly(vinylpyrrolidone) is carried out at a temperature of not higher than 70°C under a nitrogen atmosphere.
- 11. (Currently Amended) A process according to <u>claim 8</u> any of claims 8 to 10, wherein the dissolution is carried out under conditions of a Froude number of 0.7 to 1.3 and a Reynolds number of 50 to 250.

Applicant: Kimihiro Mabuchi et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 19461-006US1 / 548063

Serial No.: Filed:

Page : 4 of 5

12. (Currently Amended) A process according to <u>claim 7</u> any of claims 7 to 11, including the step of drying the hollow fiber membrane bundle by irradiating the same bundle with microwave under a reduced pressure.

- 13. (Original) A process according to claim 12, wherein said drying is carried out by irradiating the hollow fiber membrane bundle with microwave having a low output of 20 kW or less under a reduced pressure of 0.1 to 20 kPa.
- 14. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 12 or 13, wherein said drying is carried out while the output of microwave is being sequentially decreased in accordance with a decrease in the moisture content of the hollow fiber membrane bundle.
- 15. (Currently Amended) A process according to <u>claim 7</u> any of elaims 7 to 14, comprising the step of subjecting, to a crosslinking treatment, a hollow fiber membrane bundle which shows a hydrogen peroxide concentration of 3 ppm or less in every one of eluates from 10 portions into which the hollow fiber membrane bundle is divided in the lengthwise direction, when each of said portions is subjected to an eluation test regulated in the Approval Standard for Dialysis-type Artificial Kidney Apparatus.
- 16. (Currently Amended) A blood purifier packed with a polysulfone permselective hollow fiber membrane bundle defined in <u>claim 1</u> any of claims 1 to 6.
- 17. (Original) A blood purifier according to claim 16, wherein, when said blood purifier is subjected to an eluation test regulated in the Approval Standard for Dialysis-type Artificial Kidney Apparatus, after having been stored at room temperature for one year, the maximum value of the UV absorbance of an eluate therefrom at a wavelength of 220 to 350 nm is 0.10 or less.